ENP Starts the New Decade Right!

Shalom Friends,

ENP has started the new decade with the energy and determination necessary to advance our mission of uplifting the lives of the Ethiopian-Israeli community. This work would not be impossible without the support of our partners-- without you. Thank you for your support.

Much has happened since the end of the last decade and the beginning of the new one. Thousands of high school students from 26 cities are thriving in ENP's School Performance and Community Empowerment (SPACE) and other ENP programs that focus on education and empowerment. ENP commemorated Sigd on Mt. Herzl in what we hope to become an annual event that brings teens from across the country to mark this special holiday, remembering the joy of the return to Jerusalem by delving into the heroes of Ethiopian Jewry and Zionism. And ENP has hosted tens of missions, just one of the highlights being a delegation of historically black colleges and universities students.

Read on for more ENP highlights. And keep a look out: we plan on getting the stories out to you, with many more on their way.

Roni Akale Director-General, ENP

ENP Commemorates Sigd on Mt. Herzl



On November 27th ENP had the honor of commemorating Sigd on Mt. Herzl. Sigd is held overlooking Jerusalem, to which Ethiopian Jews have dreamed of returning for two millenia. The students experienced the Herzl Center and its museum, and had the opportunity to learn first-hand about the Ethiopian-Jewish journey to Israel from ENP staff members and director Roni Akale. The responses from the participants relayed the impact the day had them: "I feel very proud to be a part of the Ethiopian

community, as well as both happy and sad on the special day," shared one of the teens.

ENP plans to carry this event out on an annual basis with Sigd serving as a platform for teens, parents and leaders to gather and explore the yearning for the return to Jerusalem, a common thread for all the Jewish people.

Learn About the Significance of Sigd

Learn About ENP Programs

Hanging out with HBCU

One of ENP's first missions of 2020 was a very meaningful visit by a group of university students representing Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in the United States. These university students had the opportunity to see the SPACE program in action in Kiryat Yam. They also heard from ENP's Andrew Pico who shared the importance of the SPACE program in providing our students with important tools to advance in their



academics, and how the program works toward the integration of Ethiopian-Israelis. The HBCU students were able to become acquainted with the SPACE participants by playing interactive games with them. It was a unique experience in which our students and the HBCU students were able to discover commonalities between one another and their respective communities. The HBCU students were surprised to learn from ENP's director Roni Akale, that prior to the Aliyah of Ethiopian Jewry to Israel, many Israelis saw them as different because of their race and did not see them as fellow Jews. The HBCU students understood this sense of otherness in the narrative of Ethiopian Jews. As a result of this visit, ENP looks forward to a sustained partnership and friendship with the HBCUs. Check out a video about the visit below!



SPACE!

Introducing ENP's Interns

The Ethiopian National Project provides valuable work opportunities to countless interns and volunteers. The work of the interns is invaluable and they become an integral part of ENP's staff through their full collaboration. For eight months this year ENP is fortunate to have a full time intern, Aviv Lis, who comes to ENP from the prestigious Menachem Begin Heritage Center's Israel Government



Fellow program.

Aviv has already spearheaded several projects including a <u>successful campaign</u> in which he raised thousands of dollars, surpassing his original goal. Aviv joins ENP staff on missions where he interviews SPACE participants so he can broadly relay the impact of the program. An integral part of ENP's work is working with different Jewish Federations and charitable foundations in order to advance their shared goals: Aviv has delved into resource development,

helping to advance ENP's goal of including more participants in ENP's proven-successful programs. "I've learned a great deal about fundraising, marketing and most importantly, how to make a positive difference in the lives of others. I am so grateful I can play a part in helping to further ENP's mission towards the integration of Ethiopian Israelis," Aviv shares.

Learn More about ENP Internships
Launch a Campaign for ENP

Volunteer With ENP!

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Want to make a huge impact on a child's life?

Just \$625 can give SPACE to a student for a whole year. SPACE provides the holistic empowerment and support that will allow our students to thrive and prepare them for future success.

Send a student to SPACE and make a difference in their life today!



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ENP is powered by the Jewish Federations of North America, the Government of Israel, representatives of Ethiopian Jewish Community Organizations, the Jewish Agency for Israel, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and Keren Hayesod-UIA.

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